Meeting of MSEB, NTPC and GE Capital on Dabhol Power Project

*30. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had convened a meeting of Maharashtra State Electricity Board, National Thermal Power Corporation and GE Capital, a promoter of the Dabhol Power Project, on 25th September, 2002;

(b) if so, what was the main purpose of this meeting;

(c) what were the decisions taken;

(d) whether Government had offered a package of interest and duty concessions to reduce Dabhol plant's capactiy costs and fuel charges to the Maharashtra Government;

(e) if so, the concrete steps which have been taken; and

(f) the States to whom the power would be supplied from Dabhol Power Plant?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India (Ministry of Power) had convened a meeting on 25th September, 2002, which was attended by representatives from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), GE India, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(b) The meeting was convened to discuss certain technical issues mentioned by M/s. GE India for restarting of Phase-I of the Dabhol Power Project.

(c) In the meeting, it was decided that a preliminary inspection of the Dabhol power plant would be conducted jointly by GE India, M/s. Bechtel, NTPC, CEA, MSEB and IDBI, to ascertain its condition and to work out an action plan for restart of Phase-I.

(d) to (f) Indian Financial Institutions having stakes in the Dabhol Power Project, Government of Maharashtra and sponsors of Dabhol Power Company, have given certain proposals for revival of the Dabhol project

which includes grant of certain reliefs/ concessions by various agencies such as the Government of Maharashtra/MSEB, project sponsors, off-shore and on-shore lenders as well as the Government of India. Any scheme finalised for revival of the Dabhol project would come as a comprehensive package and would have to resolve legal, financial and technical issues involved. While this may take time, as a first step, it has been agreed that an interim revival package for restarting Phase-I be worked out by the concerned agencies. NTPC has agreed to act as Operation & Maintenance contractor for running Phase-I. The agencies concerned *i.e.* MSEB, GE India, Bechtel, IDBI, NTPC and the CEA as the representative of Ministry of Power, have conducted an inspection of the plant and are presently engaged in discussions for restart of Phase-I. Government of Maharashtra has conveyed that MSEB would recommence off-take of entire power from the existing Phase-I power station, with certain conditions.

Ceasefire with NSCN (IM)

*31. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the successes achieved and difficulties faced by the Government through the ceasefire with NSCN (IM);

(b) what is the present policy to contain insurgencies in North Eastern States; and

(c) whether Government have decided to allow Assam Government to pursue Bodo militants in the territory of Bhutan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The main achievement of the peace talks is that with the cessation of hostilities between NSCN (IM) and security forces, the level of violence in Nagaland has come down substantially. The agreement for cessation of hostilities has now been operative for the last five years and has brought about a degree of peace in Nagaland and in the adjoining areas. The Talks have also helped both parties in understanding and appreciating each other's point of view and creating a conducive environment for a final solution. The presence of various rival